

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

"Strive, Believe, Achieve"

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Our school Values

Honesty ~ Excellence ~ Respect ~ Resilience ~ Perseverance

Our Moral Purpose - Students will be able to choose a life that has meaning.

Warracknabeal Secondary College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

*Term 1 Week 2
8th February,
2017*

Welcome back for what will be an exciting year in the life of Warracknabeal Secondary College. As I write this I am putting the final touches on our schematic design for the Education Precinct with construction still likely to begin at the beginning of next year. This exciting development coincides with the 150 year anniversary of the township of Warracknabeal, celebrating the developments on contributions of past and present families and individuals.

We began the year with a focus on two of our school values: Respect and Excellence. In order to achieve our goal of developing a safe, supportive and productive learning environment, the way staff, students and the broader community work together is incredibly important. It takes a community to raise a child, and it is important that everyone takes seriously their role and responsibility to ensure every child in Warracknabeal and surrounds has access to high quality opportunities. Part of this will be a focus on the language we use to encourage each other, with staff spending part of their first day back exploring how we can motivate each student. Another initiative to motivate students is to set goals to achieve *personal* excellence. We will be measuring each student's growth with a focus on improvement, rather than current level of achievement. We often can't control where we begin in comparison to others, but we can control how hard we work to improve and get better.

Sometimes during the year, absence from school is unavoidable. There are numerous appointments that require travel and illnesses that prevent students from attending school. Please contact the office and let them know if your child is going to be absent. It is important that students who miss classes make up for the lost learning time at home when possible. We use the online learning platform Edmodo for most learning materials which students can access from home with an Internet connection. However, it is always harder to catch up after missing classes. If missing classes can be avoided, please ensure your child gets to school even if it is only for part of the day due to an appointment. Everyday counts.

Please be sure to check Edmodo and Facebook for regular communication. Anyone who does not have access to the Internet, please notify the office so that we can print a newsletter that can be picked up from the office on Thursday each week. We can also email the newsletter direct to your inbox if that is more convenient.

Michael Briggs-Miller

Principal

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Heath Schulz

Firstly, I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to the 2017 school year. I hope all students and their extended families had an enjoyable, restful but productive break. To begin, I would like to identify my team of coordinators that will support the senior students this year. Personally I will be undertaking the Acting Assistant Principal role for 2017 and overseeing all senior students, but will work directly with the Year 12 VCE students. I will be joined by Linley Arnold-Wardle who will coordinate the Year 10 and 11's VCE students and Lisa Sanders who will coordinate the Year 10-12 VCAL program. Additionally, Nicole Stewart will continue her fantastic work in careers. We have worked very hard last year and in the first few weeks of 2017 to support all students in the senior school to have a clearer pathway that will prepare them for life after school.

Career action plans (CAP)

This week in study hall, students were reviewing their CAP's to ensure they were focused on their careers when they leave WSC. This opportunity gave students time to reflect and re-evaluate their progress towards their career of choice. VET students will be supported by Nicole to complete this during spares.

Lockers

To ensure the safety of the lockers and student belongings we insist all students use a lock on their lockers. The school provides combination locks for everyone, but students also have the opportunity to use a personal lock from home. If any student needs a lock can they please see their coordinator.

Subject changes

To enable a smooth transition into Unit One studies, senior students who intend on swapping subjects need to do this by the end of next week. After this time the transition can be more difficult as they could have missed over 500 minutes of class time already. If you need to discuss any changes please don't hesitate to contact your child's coordinator.

Uniform

It is fantastic to see the senior students leading the way in uniform this year. We have a number of second hand items available to students if they are out of uniform. If families are experiencing financial difficulties in purchasing uniform items, please see Ms Munroe for Middle school and myself for senior school. We would be more than happy to discuss options to further support your child in this area.

Passes

As mentioned on Edmodo this week, any student who requires a lunch pass needs to bring a signed note from home. It is paramount that we are aware of all student movements throughout the day, especially off site. This assists our staff in providing a safe environment for all students.

There is a substantial amount of further procedural information that I could have included in my report so it is important to keep an eye on Edmodo this year, especially in the coming weeks. Again I am thoroughly looking forward to working with all senior students and their families this year. If there is anything I can do to further support your child, please don't hesitate to make a time for a meeting at the general office.

Heath Schulz

Acting Assistant Principal

A note to Parents and Guardians. This weeks' newsletter will be the last Hard copy to be distributed. If you request a Hard copy please let us know at the office. The weekly newsletter will be available online at warracksc.vic.edu.au, on our **Facebook** page, **Edmodo** and through **email**.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – WHITNEY MUNROE

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Warracknabeal Secondary College! We have gotten off to a rolling start and are looking forward to a safe, productive and successful school year. Our new Year 7s are settling in nicely and are quickly becoming part of our school community.

My name is Whitney Munroe and I am the Assistant Principal of Middle School. I am originally from the United States and have worked in education in Australia for the past three years. This year, I will be supporting our Year 7 to 9 students through their school journey.

In addition to myself, Sophie Emmett and Shaune Winsall will be working with the junior students as assistant coordinators. Sophie will be working primarily with the Year 7s to help them transition into school. Over the past week, she has been supporting them with lockers, timetables, and other logistics around the school to ensure they are feeling comfortable and are ready to learn. Shaune will be working primarily with the Year 9s this year to support them in their subjects and many other extracurricular activities. I will be supporting our Year 8s this year to ensure their success and provide additional help when needed.

We have another excellent addition to the class schedules this year for our junior students. We are starting a new “Learning Pathways Class” that is one period a week and focuses on topics such as goals, strengths, attitudes, mindsets, careers, organisation, and much more. This class is being implemented to help build students’ skills outside of the core subject areas and to assist in their personal development.

One way that you can help support your students in their “Learning Pathways Class” is to help them develop a *growth mindset*. In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. At home, you can help your student develop a growth mindset by saying things like, “If you think you can’t do it, remind yourself that you can’t do it *yet!*” or “You might be struggling, but you are making progress. Look how much you’ve grown!” Talking to students about their growth and hard work encourages them to continue to work hard and helps them develop a growth mindset.

We have started the school year with a main focus on one of our school values, “Respect.” In the “Learning Pathways Class” we have been discussing what respect looks like in our actions and our words. This year, we will be focusing on building a culture of respect at the school so that students are supporting one another and feeling comfortable, safe and happy.

I look forward to working with all of you closely this year to support your students and ensure that they are reaching their highest potential.

Whitney Munroe

Assistant Principal of Middle School

School Council

Nominations are now open for two parent vacancies on our school council. If you are an enthusiastic parent interested in getting more involved and having a say in what our school is doing, or know someone who is, we would love to hear from you. We are looking for people who are committed to improving the educational outcomes for all our students. Effective councils have a broad range of experience, skills and expertise. Face-to-face and online training is also available to help councillors develop the skills and knowledge for the job. Parents find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging. Please contact the office to discuss further or to pick up a nomination form.

Nominations close on the 23rd of February.

Absence Hotline - 5398 1433 Or email

Charmaine – Mon, Tues and Fri - wilson.charmaine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Chelsea – Wed and Thurs - smith.chelsea.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please notify the school by 12 noon on the day of the absence.

From the Office:

Hats

Term 1 is one of the terms we require **ALL students** to wear a school approved hat **EVERY day** when outside at recess and lunchtime. We also strongly advise students to wear their hat to and from school. In past years this begins with a battle of wills between students who don't want to wear hats, and the staff who are entrusted by our community to enforce the rule. I ask that parents please support us by ensuring their child has a hat, and that he/she is aware of the policy. This policy was put in place to protect our youth from the harmful effects of the sun. Hats are available at the office for \$10. Year 7's received a free hat last week.



New details

If you have recently had any changes in your circumstances, please let the school know so we can update our records eg. New address, phone number, emails etc.

If you would like to make payments towards your school fees we have a BPay system. You can ring or call into the office to receive your BPay number.

Conveyance Allowance – Eligibility - Semester 1

1. To receive a conveyance allowance individual students must meet all of the following criteria:
2. Attend a school/campus located outside Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).
3. Attend the closest appropriate school/campus
4. Reside 4.8km or more from the school/campus (shortest practicable route calculated by school at time of application from the student's home to the school/campus attended) or 4.8km from home to the student's bus stop.
5. Be of school age (between 5 and 18 years old at the time of application), and a resident of Victoria
6. Be enrolled and travelling to school three or more days per week.

Application forms can be obtained from the front office.

New application forms must be completed for existing recipients

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their achievements.
- CSEF will be provided to eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.
- If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.
- The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or print and return the form located at the end of the newsletter.

2017 Year 7 Uniform Pack for CSEF recipients

In 2017 every Year 7 government school student who is a recipient of CSEF automatically qualifies to receive a uniform pack that is provided through State Schools' Relief.

If your child receives CSEF assistance and is in Year 6 in 2016 you can ask for a uniform pack to be provided by State Schools' Relief through the secondary school your child is enrolled to attend in 2017.

Parents who have already purchased their child's uniform for 2017 and then become a CSEF recipient can still apply for a CSEF Year 7 Uniform Pack in 2017.

What is in the CSEF 2017 Year 7 uniform pack?

The uniform pack includes basic uniform items needed to start secondary school.

For Year 6 students commencing Year 7 in 2017 State Schools' Relief will provide one item from each row of the table provided.

Boys

Black leather shoes – Lace up / Skate
Jumper / Jacket / Bomber / Rugby Top
Shorts / Trousers
Long Sleeve / Short Sleeve Shirt

Girls

Black leather shoes – Lace up / T-Bar / Skate
Jumper / Jacket / Bomber / Rugby Top
Summer Dress / Winter Skirt + Shirt / Trousers + Shirt
/Shorts + Shirt

If above is NOT a Summer Dress then select either:

Long Sleeve Shirt / Short Sleeve Shirt.

All students will also receive one free pair of shoes supplied directly from SSR.

Please call in at the office to collect forms.

LUNCHPASSES:

Town students who go home for lunch regularly will be given a permanent lunch pass by the Sub School Co-ordinator, when they receive a letter requesting a pass from the student's parent/guardian.

This permanent Lunch pass is only to go home for lunch, not to go down the street or to another person's house. Bus travellers, who need to leave the College grounds for a specific reason at lunchtime, must bring a note every time the need arises.

We have a legal responsibility for the care of all students and need to know if they have left the school grounds.

STUDENT CONCESSION CARDS

Students over the age of 15 years are eligible to claim for a Student Concession Card for travel on Public Transport.

Further details and forms are available from the Office.

Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to school

Parent, guardians and students are reminded that the school does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.



Year 7 Welcome BBQ

On Monday, all Year 7 students were sent home with a letter regarding the upcoming Year 7 Welcome BBQ, to be held on **Tuesday 14th Feb from 6:00 to 7:30pm (approx)** in the BBQ area near the school canteen.

This session is provided to enable parents/guardians to informally meet their student's teachers, to familiarize themselves with their student's program, Edmodo and to provide details about the upcoming Orientation Camp on 27th Feb – 1st Mar in Week 5 of school.

Please return the RSVP form to the front office by Friday 24th February (attending or apology).

Ms. Whitney Munroe, Ms. Sophie Emmett and Mr. Shaune Winsall

Maths Support Sessions for 2017

Maths support sessions will be available to all students every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 – 1:30pm in room 11. Any student is welcome to come along to receive support with their maths learning. This can relate to weekly homework sheets, topic exercises, addressing areas of limited understanding or assisting with Maths Pathway modules. Any concerns or questions contact Mr Bish or your student's Maths teacher for further details.



WELLBEING REPORT

As a wellbeing team we are developing and implementing a new whole school wellbeing plan. Our aim is to create a student centered learning environment and to promote student engagement with each other, their teachers, their school and their community. We also aim to build positive and authentic relationships based on WSCs vision and values, along with a healthy and supportive staff culture here at the school. The new whole school wellbeing plan also includes a calendar of dates and events that all students will be able to get involved in. Also with dates of relevant information days such as the one below.

Feb 7th was 'SAFER INTERNET DAY'. WSC is dedicated to providing a safe Internet system here at school. However we all know that a lot of issues can come about from the misuses of the Internet whether at school, at home or at work. Safer Internet day is all about educating people and offering insight into a positive use for the Internet. Whether you're Googling an address, using social media or sending an email, safer Internet is a vital part of almost all of our lives on a daily basis. If you would like more information or to take part in testing your knowledge of safe internet then I would encourage you to head over to the website www.saferinternet.org.



Thank you and I look forward to what is sure to be an amazing 2017.

Greg McKinnon

WSC student wellbeing worker.

[Like us on Facebook.](#)



We are up to 798 LIKES on the Warracknabeal Secondary College Facebook page. If you haven't already "liked" our page make sure you do so you can get updates on what's happening around the school.

Careers Report

VET Students

VET began on Wednesday and by all reports, all students enjoyed their first day. 1st Year Agriculture students will need to wait until next Wednesday to start. If you have a student completing a VET course and are yet to see their permission slip to leave their RTO please ask them for it. Forms need to be returned to school ASAP. A VET information sheet was also handed out after general assembly last Monday. Materials fees payable by the student will be sent home by invoice by the end of February. If they can be paid to the office by the end of first term.

Year 12 students – GAP year travel opportunity

EA Ski and Snowboard Training

Over the past 10 years EA has helped over 2,500 young people have the best winter of their lives through their Instructor Internship Program. The opportunity gives you world class training, support and an internationally recognised qualification. You also get to step straight into a paid instructor job at one of the World's top ski schools.

Recruitment is now open for programs starting this Nov/Dec 2017. For more information look up

www.easkiandsnowboard.com

VTAC Magazine

VTAC is currently looking for Year 12 students to participate in *VTACmag's* 30 Minute Mentor. Last year, 30 Minute Mentor was one of the most popular sections in the magazine. Students were paired with mentors who could answer questions about their industry and what it's like to work in their field of interest day to day. Our mentors last year including a psychologist, a photographer and a pathologist. The students involved each had a 30 minute conference call with their mentors in which they could ask questions about career pathways, salaries, typical duties, lifestyle considerations and anything else they wanted to know about their future careers. All of the students had great questions and got a lot out of the experience.

If you are in Year 12 and interested in participating this year, please email publishing@vtac.edu.au with the subject line '30 minute mentor' and answers to the following:

Name

School

Phone number

Email address

What are you studying this year?

What do you hope to study or do next year?

What job/s are you interested in when you finish studying?

Why do you want to participate in 30 Minute Mentor?

What are three questions you would like to ask a mentor?

What kind of person would you like as a 30 minute mentor?

What job do they have?

Do you have anyone in particular in mind?

The deadline for submissions is Friday 24 February at 5pm.

More information is available on the Year 12 Bulletin Edmodo page.

Simulated UMAT Day Workshop

Are you in year 10, 11 or 12 and considering career in medicine, dentistry, or optometry?

'The Simulated UMAT Day' is on again for 2017. Please note, places for this event are strictly limited and registration is required. This event will be conducted by the National Institute of Education, the only UMAT preparation organisation that uses teachers accredited by the Department of Education and Training to prepare students for this critical test.

Workshop Duration: 9am - 5.30pm. Lunch and refreshments provided.

Summary of Workshop Contents: Arrivals and meeting the teachers, introduction to UMAT and career in Health, UMAT Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving tutorial, UMAT Understanding People tutorial, UMAT Non-verbal Reasoning Tutorial, UMAT Medical Interviews Presentation and Simulation: MMI and Structured Panel. Full UMAT trial test under exam conditions, marking session and trial test feedback, questions from students session.

Cost: \$289.

To register logon to: <http://www.nie.edu.au/umat-courses/simulated-umat-day-workshop>

Responsible Serving of Alcohol Course (RSA)

Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House are offering the above course on Friday March 17th from 3pm – 7pm Cost \$110

Great for students that work in the supermarket industry to enable them to work in the bottle shop once they are 18 years old.

Don't need to be 18 to do the course, however you need to be 18 to use it.

Enrol at Neighbourhood House by the 14th March.

Nicole Stewart

Careers/VET Co-ordinator


Structured Workplace Learning

Calendar of Events

February	21 st	WSC Swim Sports
	14 th	Yr 7 Welcome BBQ- 6:30 at the school
March	2 nd	Black Ranges Swim Sports (Warrack)



Community Events




Endoreic

Lake Lascelles Short Film Festival

Participate in Film Production Workshops

Create your own 3 – 6 min short films
Entries will be shown at a public presentation at Lake Lascelles Hopetoun on April 8th

Workshops to be held at these venues between the following dates



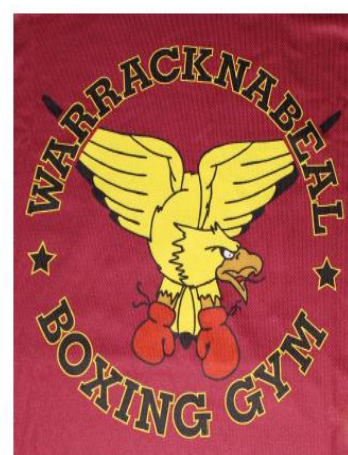
Week 1: Fri Feb 10 9 – 11.30am – Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House 2 Cox Street
12.30 – 3pm in Hopetoun Neighbourhood House Austin Street
Sat Feb 11 10am – 12.30pm – Horsham Nexus Building Pynsent St Horsham

Week 2: Fri March 3 9 – 11.30am – Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House 2 Cox Street
12.30 – 3pm in Hopetoun Neighbourhood House Austin Street
Sat March 4 10am – 12.30pm – Horsham Nexus Building Pynsent St Horsham
Also on this weekend, Hannah to be available to help out with individual filmmakers filming

Week 3: Fri March 17 9 – 11.30am Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House 2 Cox Street
12.30 – 3pm in Hopetoun Neighbourhood House Austin Street
Sat March 18 10am – 12.30pm – Horsham Nexus Building Pynsent St Horsham

For more information...
Contact: Murray McKenzie
Email: mmckenzie@yarriambiack.vic.gov.au

Endoreic
Lake Lascelles Short Film Festival



**RESUMING
MONDAY 13TH OF FEBRUARY**

NEW COACH ZAC ROSS

**NEW TIMES
JUNIORS MONDAY 5:15PM
SENIORS 6:00PM**

Cardio boxing a great fun way for to keep fit

WARRACKNABEAL LEISURE CENTRE

GOLD COIN DONATION PLEASE

ENQUIRIES STACEY 0428620843

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb State Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant

Date / /